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CLUB NOTES

Madame Simpson extended the hospitality of her home in Massachusetts avenue to the Cercle Des Precieuses Ridicules at its current meeting last week. The program was the following: Piano, "Balade," Chopin; "Davee Negro," Scott; "Mme. Charles Imray," Violin; "Meditation," Thal; "Massenet," "Rondino," "Lachoven; Mme. Duff Lewis, accompanied by Mrs. Simpson. Piano, "Notturno," Grieg; Mrs. Simpson. Lectures, "Notre Dame de Paris," Mlle. Becker; "L'Amérique," Mlle. Stow. Chords, in three acts, written by Mlle. Shaw. "Fortemontaine," Mlle. Shaw and M. Probert.

The State D. A. R. committee on patriotic education, through its chairman, Miss Ada Boyd Glasco, presented cash prizes to Miss Esther Sorensen, and Isador Zamonsky, pupils of the foreign classes of Thomas Jefferson night school, for the two best essays in English, the subject being "America, the Land of Opportunity."

The Capitol Hill Literary Society held one of the interesting meetings of the season on Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Davis, 1236 Thirteenth street northeast. The president, Mrs. Mattie Queen Ewing, called the meeting to order with the singing of the national anthem, accompanied by Mrs. E. V. Carr, after which the regular routine business of the society was transacted.

A patriotic resolution was offered by E. V. Carr to make it a permanent duty to display the American flag at every meeting which the society should hold. The topic selected for the evening's discussion was on America's art and artists. An interesting paper was read by Miss Blanche Beaton. The paper was discussed in general by Mrs. J. W. Davis, Mr. J. W. Davis, H. W. Selah, Mrs. Henry P. Holden, A. H. Frear, Capt. J. E. Hart, and Mrs. Laura B. Lawson. Several readings were given by Miss Eleanor Manning. An address on Poetry was made by Mr. Henry P. Holden. Another interesting feature connected with the evening's program was the several piano duets which were rendered by Mrs. A. H. Frear and Mrs. E. V. Carr.

Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 23, I. O. O. F., held an election at its last session to fill a number of offices which had recently been vacated. Installation ceremonies were held Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. J. W. Davis, 1236 Thirteenth street northeast, and members of the lodge installed.

The April meeting of D. C. Chapter, D. F. P. A., was held at the home of Mrs. T. M. Jones, with Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Ames as hostesses. At the brief business meeting announcement was made of the tea and informal conference which was held at the Raleigh April 14 of the tea to be given in honor of the national officers early in May and of the general court, which will be held this year on May 16.

The paper of the afternoon was given by Mrs. E. L. Whitney and was on the history of Quincey, Mass. During the social hour Miss Christine Jones played piano selections and refreshments were served.

Brightwood Chapter, No. 3, will hold an informal hat box dance on Monday evening in the Masonic Hall at Brightwood. On Wednesday evening the mark degree will be had with Companion B. F. Vernon presiding.

The April meeting of Our Flag Chapter, D. A. R., met with its vice regent, Mrs. Ellen Spencer Mussey, on Tuesday, at her home, 212 K Street.

The meeting was called to order by the regent, Miss Catherine Polkinton, and the most important business feature of the afternoon was the election of officers for the coming year, and the following were unanimously chosen: Regent, Mrs. J. Edgar Smith; vice regent, Mrs. E. B. Polkinton; recording secretary, Miss Mary E. Whitall; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Albert N. Walker; treasurer, Mrs. Laura C. O'Hare; registrar, Mrs. Frank A. Wolf; historian, Mrs. John T. Smith; chaplain, Mrs. Frank Lee Williams.

The chapter had an unusual treat by being favored with an address by Mr. Raymond E. Crist, deputy commissioner of naturalization.

The social hour was very pleasant and among the guests of the chapter were Mrs. George Thacher Guernsey, president general I. S. D. A. R.; Mrs. G. Wallace W. Hanger, vice president general; Mrs. Elizabeth Berce, chaplain general; Mrs. Woodbury Fulsifer, corresponding secretary general; Mrs. C. A. Auld, State regent from Nebraska; Mrs. John C. Aimes, of Illinois, who nominated Mrs. Guernsey; Mrs. Belle R. Reed; Mrs. Freeman C. Rogers; Mrs. C. Daniels, of the Arkansas Valley Chapter, of Pueblo, Colo.; Mrs. L. B. Swenson; Mrs. Hannah Bosworth, of Cleveland, Ohio; and Mrs. F. A. St. Clair.

When Mrs. Mussey in serving tea and other delicious refreshments were

AS ENTENTE WAR ALLY CUBA SHOWS PROGRESS

Achievements of Little Republic Being Brought to Light.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Havana, Cuba, April 28.—Cuba's entrance into the great war as an ally of the United States marks the climax of an uninterrupted series of history-making events which have been shaping themselves on the little island for some time. So fast have things been happening in Cuba that one who has tried hard to study the commercial possibilities of the island has found himself facing such a multitude of opportunities as to stagger the imagination.

Cuba has emerged the victor in several internal wars. Her leaders of thought and commerce have steered the country safely over the shoals and breakers typified by the three revolutions that the republic has hardly finished meeting out the punishment to the rebel leaders in the latest insurrection when it voluntarily responded to the call of the entente and chose to cast in its lot with the democratic nations of the world.

Valuable Ally. The result has been an awakening on the part of the other nations in the north—a realization of the vast possibilities for commercial interrelation, trade expansion and social and political intercourse.

One need not go back so far in the history of the island republic to discover the causes of its rapid forward strides and its present unprecedented material prosperity. A glance over the years preceding the administration of President Menocal and his cabinet, and a like survey of the period which followed that administration is convincing indeed, of the reasons for the country's growth. With the inauguration of a newer and better government, there was nothing to check the expansion of Cuba's resources.

Enormous Commerce. Independence and the smooth running machinery of government has made it possible for Cuba to take a deep breath and develop her trade with the world—a trade which enables Cuba to say that more merchandise enters and leaves the harbor of Havana than any place in the United States except New York. The total foreign commerce of the republic amounted to over \$450,000,000 last year!

Such, in brief, is the Cuba of today. What the future has in store for that little island can only be conjectured by judging from its present rate of progress. Entering as an ally of the great powers who are fighting for the world's freedom, Cuba has assured herself a position of respect and honor which history will be quick to recognize. The world of today has already recognized it and has said: "Bravo Cuba!"

G. W. U. NOTES

The annual Tri-Province convention of the First, Second and Ninth Provinces of Sigma Chi was held recently at the Shoreham. Delegates representing twenty-five chapters and four alumni chapters attended, together with the grand consul of the fraternity and several other grand officers.

Sigma Chi has announced the initiation of Charles Valzer, Columbian College, '20.

Miss Sophia P. Woodman, a prominent Phi Beta Phi girl from New York, was a recent luncheon guest of the local chapter.

Phi Beta Phi recently gave a tea at the Gettysburg School. A military division of the army or navy will carry with him a small silk flag, the gift of the fraternity. Fourteen men received the first allotment of flags at a recent smoker. Addresses were delivered by Rear Admiral Cary T. Grayson, Mr. Leonard H. English, J. Stuart Hunt, and Dr. A. F. W. Schmidt.

Miss Louise Carmen, of Swarthmore College, was entertained at luncheon recently by Chi Omega.

Miss Myrtle King, of Chi Omega, gave a shower recently for Miss Luella Field. The party was given at the home of Mrs. Charles Hammel.

The Theta Delta Chi Graduate Association recently met at the chapter house.

Theta Delta Chi gave a luncheon recently in honor of "Jim" Bradbury, who was here with "Have a Heart."

Julian Cunningham, Theta Delta Chi, '16, has received a commission in the army and now is the Officers' School, Leavenworth, Kan.

Messrs. McCoy, Collins, and Johnson, of the Law School, have enlisted in the District National Guard.

John P. Helman, of the Law School, has enlisted in the Naval Reserve.

Dr. J. P. Turner, of the Veterinary College, has returned from a special inspection tour in Harrisburg, Pa.

The seniors and juniors of the Veterinary College recently inspected a herd of dairy northern cattle on the farm of Joseph Leiter, near Chain Bridge.

Dean Buckingham, of the Veterinary College, recently visited New York City for a few days.

Dr. Turner, of the Veterinary College, has been appointed a member of the special committee on army veterinary service appointed by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

The other members of the committee are Dr. C. J. Marshall, V. A. Moore, F. A. Bolser, and L. A. Merrill.

Dr. J. W. Bovee, professor of gynecology at the Medical School, has returned to his classes after a brief illness.

German Retreat Forced Declared Army Experts

Four Views of Present Allied Drive Concede Rapid Move of French and English Spoiled Teuton Retreat Plans.

By JOHN L. BALDERTON.

(Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

London, April 7. (By mail.)—Military opinion here is now positive that whatever surprises the future may hold in store, trench warfare of the type that prevailed on the western front for two years and half has ended forever. Having agreed upon this, I find that authorities of equal knowledge and eminence disagree radically concerning the strategy of the 1917 campaign.

One point upon which civilian opinion has gone widely astray is the character of the German retreat. The abandonment by the Germans of their trench lines over a wide front at the beginning of last month was not a voluntary maneuver, as the German press has loudly proclaimed, but was compelled by the battle of the Somme, which, instead of being a failure or a draw, is now proved to have been one of the decisive victories of the war.

German Retreat Inevitable. I was permitted to send dispatches from the Somme front last summer stating on high authority that a German retreat was inevitable as a result of the inexorable wedge being driven in the German lines. This withdrawal was expected in the late autumn. Unfortunately, the rainy season set in at the beginning of October, and two months in which the British and French hoped to rout the German armies were lost. The rains alone enabled the Germans to hold out in the Arras salient, created by the Somme battle, and in the great Noyon salient, until the beginning of spring, but when spring made possible the re-commencement of the inexorable British push the Germans made the best of a bad job, and commenced a retreat during its first phase a successful retreat.

But while Hindenburg was forced to go back, he was not compelled to retreat so far or so rapidly as he has done in the tactical situation confronting him. Some of the great circles concerning the intentions of the German high command. The initiative in the present campaign does not entirely rest with the Germans, but speculation about the allied plan of campaign is hardly advisable at present. The four interpretations of the Teutonic mind that find favor in London will be summarized in the order of their popularity.

Four Interpretations Possible.

1. Germany, faithful to the last to the Prussian dogma that the best defensive is the offensive, plans a great battle in the west in the hope of destroying the bulk of the French or British armies, or so crippling them that peace can be obtained. But the reserves to maintain the 168 new and old German divisions now present upon the western front or within call in the depots are not sufficient to maintain the German units at their present strength after the beginning of the summer, so that a victory, if it is ever to be obtained, must be won promptly.

A military deviation of this nature may be regarded by the most optimistic German as impossible. Accordingly Hindenburg is now engaged upon a gigantic gamble. By withdrawing and restoring the war of maneuver he brings the elements of luck and good generalship back into play, so that with inferior forces he may hope in great open field battles to win decisive victories. The further he retreats, laying waste the country and destroying the communications, the greater his advantage when the decisive struggle comes, because behind the German lines the railways, roads and billets remain undamaged, while the allies are compelled to advance through a desert.

May Be to Gain Time.

2. Another school of thought, admitting the intention of Germany to seek military decision this summer, considers that Hindenburg will not permit the Allies to gain time.

3. A third school of thought, admitting the intention of Germany to seek military decision this summer, considers that Hindenburg will not permit the Allies to gain time.

4. Another group of military men contend that within the last few weeks the whole German plan of campaign has been upset by the British and French armies, and that the Germans are now drifting into a desperate position for which they have no remedy. The retreat in the west, it is held, was commenced with a view to solving the "Hindenburg" or "Siegfried" line, from Arras to Laon, thus disorganizing the coming British offensive. On this line the Germans were to make a defensive stand, rearing trench warfare, with or without an offensive against some other part of the allied line. But Haig and Nivelle, by a pursuit whose speed wrecked the German calculations, prevented the enemy from settling down on his new line, broke the "Hindenburg" line of the Arras ridge, which he expected to hold for several weeks, next by breaking the line before St. Quentin and taking the new center of the German positions before the Germans could prepare to offer serious resistance. Adherents of this view, which most soldiers think is too optimistic, are able to point to a mass of evidence in support of their thesis, both in German boasts during the early part of the retreat and the strong fortifications taken along the whole front with little or no resistance.

High School this year, and the proceeds will be largely donated to Red Cross work.

A canning demonstration, using methods recommended by the Department of Agriculture, will be given at Park View domestic science center on the evening of May 11, by O. H. Benson.

Friendship Club will give a dance at the Women's College Club next Friday. The June class, 1916, Business High, will hold a dance at the Arcade ballroom May 2.

Kebler Dramatic Club presented "The Model Wife" at Wilson Normal School, Friday night. Between the acts there were demonstrations of classic dancing by the rhythm class.

The Motet Choral Society, directed by Otto F. Simon, will give its final concert of the eighth season on Wednesday evening, May 2, in the ballroom of the New Willard at 8:45 o'clock. Miss Caroline Curtis, of New York, will be the soprano soloist. In addition to its classical program of choral music, the organization will sing three choruses in combination with piano, mobile color, thrown on a screen and expressing the psychological harmony of music and color.

The following program, with George H. Milson and Miss Lenore Baker at the piano, will be given:

Two choruses, "The World Is Too Much With Us," Bantock (sonnet by Wordsworth); "The Two Bantocks" (words by William Bantock); Aria (for soprano), Mozart, dove song from the "Marriage of Figaro"; three choruses (color music), "Spring's Enchantment," Bantock; "Sorrow" (Finland song); "The Zealot" (words by Edgar Allan Poe); Holbrook; aria (for soprano), "I est doux, il est bon" (from "Hérodiade"); Massenet; four choruses (from "Israel in Egypt"), Handel.

Madeline Lazard von Unschuld, 8-year-old pianist, appeared last night in a program of the compositions of the great music masters. She was supported in her program by Miss Mary Howe, soprano; Mme. Marie von Unschuld, concert pianist; R. Glider, tenor; D. Brecken, violinist; and L. E. Manoly, cellist.

The Art League has completed the interior decorating at Brightwood Park School and begun work on the Ross.

Thirty Norman School students will take the civil service examination next Friday.

A popular vaudeville performance will take the place of the usual classic event known as the "Spring Play," at Western

be so foolhardy as to try for a victory in the open against the combined British and French armies. The German retreat is therefore regarded as a maneuver to gain time by delaying the allied offensive in the west, and also, by shortening the German line, to release troops for a projected offensive against either Russia or Italy. There are students of the war who are convinced that Russia will be the German objective, for political as well as military reasons. The Germans may hope by winning victories over armies that they think will be disorganized by the revolution, or induce a state of anarchy, either of which would render Russia impotent, or induce her to make peace. It is known that Italy, an Austrian attack through the Trentino upon the Venetian plain, coupled with a German push across the Isonzo, is expected in the middle of May, when the Alpine passes will be open, and by some the German retreat in the west is ascribed to the desire to obtain troops for this advance.

Submarine Desperate Resort. 3. Other soldiers believe the Germans, having given up hope of success on land anywhere having turned to the submarine warfare to give them victory, are subordinating land warfare to their sea "blockade." Their armies are bartering space against time. That is, by withdrawing slowly before projected offensives, they count upon keeping the German armies in contact and delaying indefinitely a decisive blow, giving up territory, instead of incurring vast casualties and dangerously weakening their fighting strength. Each time the allies at the cost of great time and labor prepare a mighty blow, the Germans, giving up some territory, enemies to strike a "blow in the air."

Meanwhile, the submarines go on working. This theory assumes that the Germans now think time is on their side, and that they will be content to adopt a purely defensive, on all fronts, for the rest of the war. It has superficial attractions, but does not command such support as the two views summarized above. The fallacies in the reasoning seem to be that the Germans are surviving faster than the Allies, and that the hope of a quick retirement can be continued indefinitely without disaster, and that German morale would not stand a policy of retreat, with no offensives and no victories to cheer the people with false hopes.

Pursuit Changed Plans.

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SEEN AND HEARD BY GEORGE MINER

THE PASSPORT FLIMFLAM

If You Want to Lose Your Temper and Waste Time and Money Try to Get One.

The man who attempts to get a United States passport nowadays has his troubles all cut out for him. It's easier for a camel to go through the needle's eye than to get a passport. There is no such thing as a free passport. There is no such thing as a passport for a citizen of the United States. There is no such thing as a passport for a citizen of the United States. There is no such thing as a passport for a citizen of the United States.

There are more red tape and conflicting orders involved in this pursuit of safety than in organizing a baseball team. This is particularly true if the base of operations happens to be in New York, from which port the majority of American passports are issued. The volume has the passport business grown to be in New York that the government has established a passport agency there to handle it. New York agents have been put in charge. There is another youth who is a clerk and there are a couple of office boys.

Of course with this highly inadequate force it is impossible to do the work at all promptly. To begin with, the application blanks given out by this agency do not fit in with the requirements of the agency at all. They are the same blanks that were furnished before the agency was established, and contain instructions which are all right in their places, but are exactly opposite to what you should do in New York. The poor, long-suffering applicant knows nothing about that, however, until after he has completed with all the conditions and instructions which he has to fill out, only to find that he has had all his trouble and labor for nothing. He has then to make a new start and do it all over again, according to the exceptional rules of this New York agency, about which he was not informed.

I was in the agency office at No. 2 Recor street the other day and found a mob of indignant and protesting applicants. Some of them had been waiting for hours and others had found that whatever they had done was wrong.

One man had a passport on which he had been abroad. It had some time yet to run. He applied to have it renewed. He inquired if he would get it back in time to sail on a ship leaving Saturday. Washington wired that his passport would reach the New York agency in ample season. He bought his tickets and made all arrangements, but no passport came.

I saw him on the following Monday. His ship had sailed, but his passport had not even then been returned.

Had it been a private party that caused me all this trouble and expense, he said, "I would bring suit and recover

big damages, but, of course, I can't sue the government."

Naturally, nobody can blame the government for not wanting citizens to leave the country at this particular time, but it certainly gets one's goat to learn that he has been flimflamed by the national authorities.

Take the case, for instance, of passports to Mexico. The United States has recognized the Carranza government and is at peace with that country. Many people wish to go there, so they apply for a passport, and are given a blank and told to have their picture taken.

When you call to inquire at the appointed time if the passport has been issued, you are calmly informed that the United States does not issue any passports to Mexico and has not for some time. That's all.

You are allowed to go ahead and spend time and money to absolutely no purpose, in my case it cost a day's time and eight dollars in money. I certainly begrudge the United States those eight dollars.

Still more do I bemoan the fact that I got no passport.

You must either be a bull in Mexican affairs or nothing at all," said Mr. Howard Willett, the well-known New York business man, clubman and multimillionaire. "There is no halfway ground. Now, I have never been in Mexico in my life, but within the last three years I have invested \$400,000 without getting a cent back yet or even expecting to get it back. That's what I think of the possibilities and future of Mexico, and I have no interests in their politics one way or another. To my mind Mexico is a straight and legitimate business proposition. I am going down there in a few days to look things over."

I find there are a good many American business men of the same way of thinking. Confidence in the stability of the constitutional government is rapidly being established and a large number of Americans are drifting down there to engage in business enterprises.

Mr. James Russell, who is a leading business man of Pueblo and thoroughly familiar with conditions in that section of the republic, tells me that he is the head of a trading concern there which is less than three years old.

"It has already paid back more than twice the capital invested," said he, "and is worth three times what we put into it."

These are stories which tell—just like a small brother.

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